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17. ABSTRACT (MAX. 250 WORDS)

The program attempted to orient students to employer demands, proper work habits and attitudes, and vocational needs of the community, and how and where to solicit work. All seventh graders were exposed to the vocational possibilities within the community as an integral part of the regular curriculum.

In the eight and ninth grades, potential dropouts at least 14 years old were given the opportunity to attend school part-time and work the rest of the school day. Students were placed in work stations conducive to their vocational development and interests. Because the program emphasized training, the students were paid 75¢ per hour.

A terminal program was designed for those students marking time until they were of legal age to drop out of school. The program acquainted the dropout with the procedures for finding and keeping a job and with good grooming and personal habits.

The Madison Area employment agency helped disadvantaged students who were not potential dropouts find temporary or part-time work. Vocational counseling services for out-of-schoolers were offered to past dropouts in the Madison area. Students were told repeatedly that the school would always be open to them.

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CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MADISON AREA PROJECT
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

June, 1963

THE MADISON AREA PROJECT

WORLD-OF-WORK TRAINING PROGRAM, PHASE I

By:

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Coordinator
Vocational Placement

and

By:

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Director

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C O N T E N T S

(A) The Work Orientation Program, for Grades 7, 8 and 9.

(B) The Terminal Program.

(C) The Madison Area Employment Agency.

(D) Vocational Counseling Services for Past Dropouts.

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH OF THE AREAS

A. THE WORLD-OF-WORK PROGRAM

This program has as its main concern the preparation of students for entering the "world of work". It will focus on orienting them to employer demands, proper work habits and attitudes, the vocational needs of the community, how and where to solicit work, and many other topics necessary for such a program. An attempt will be made to introduce to the students, at their level, material of a social-psychological nature to enable them to grow in self-understanding.

All seventh graders will be exposed to the vocational possibilities within our community as an integral part of the regular curriculum. At the same time, the vocational counselors will be on the alert for potential school leavers who would benefit by an intensified introduction to the world of work during whatever school time remains before they reach the legal age for dropping out.

In the eighth and ninth grades, potential dropouts who are at least 14 years old will have an opportunity to attend school part-time and work the rest of the school day. Their program, for a five-day school week, will be:

8:00 AM------ Vocational and Personal Guidance: emphasis on knowledge of the "self"

8:50 AM------ Core subjects English, Mathematics and Social Studies in regular classes, but with strong emphasis on reading

11:30 AM------ Lunch Period - includes study and counseling period and travel time to training center

1:00-3:00 PM- On-the job training

The coordinator will spend at least one-half hour weekly in individual counseling sessions. On-the-job conferences will also be arranged with the employer or the trainee-supervisor.

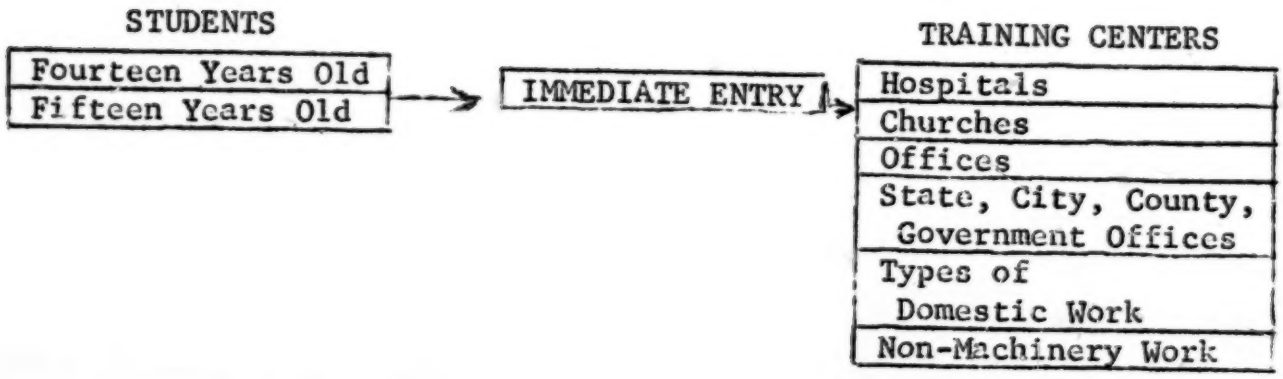
Students will be placed in work stations conducive to their vocational development and interests; however, New York Child Labor Laws prohibit students from working in certain environments if they are under sixteen. In such cases the student will work in an area where he has a secondary interest and be transferred to his primary interest as soon as he reaches the minimum age required.

State and local labor laws are applicable to students in this program. The employer - whether a public agency or private business - assumes the responsibility for liability, compensation, social security, and paying the student. Because the program emphasizes training, $0.75 per hour will be paid to the students.

WORK ORIENTATION PROGRAM OUTLINE

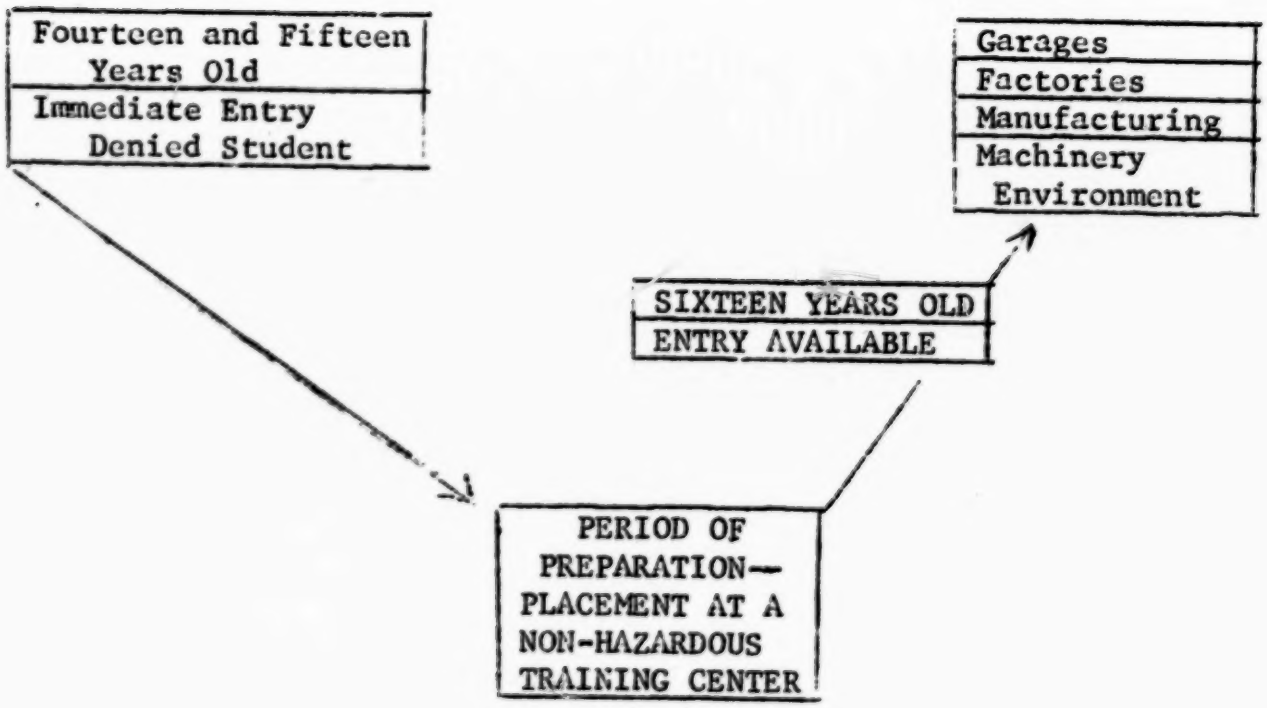
Non-Hazardous, Non-Machinery Training Centers

Procedure



Training Centers Utilizing Machinery

Procedure



B. THE TERMINAL PROGRAM

The terminal program is designed for those students who are marking time until they are of legal age to drop out of school. This unit of instruction can be given in ten class periods. It will acquaint the dropout with the procedures for finding and keeping a job, where to look for work, grooming and personal habits, and other related instruction. The school's "Open Door" program of vocational and educational counseling and/or referrals, will be explained to him. That the school stands ready to help him and is not throwing him out is an important message that must be communicated. The student will then be referred to the New York State Employment Service or the Youth and Work Project of the Onondaga County Youth Board.

C. THE MADISON AREA EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

There is a great need on the part of disadvantaged students who are not potential dropouts for temporary or part-time work. The Madison Area Employment Agency will meet this need by serving as a clearing house for domestic-type jobs, such as caddying, snow shoveling, raking leaves, baby-sitting, etc. This program will benefit students who are doing well in school but who need money to meet the "hidden" costs of education. An agency like this will present an opportunity for students to see other areas of the community, particularly middle- and upper-class homes. These experiences could have positive motivational and aspirational implications even for the Honor Roll student.

D. VOCATIONAL COUNSELING SERVICES FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOLERS

Through this program, past dropouts in the Madison area - without any age restrictions - will be given vocational guidance and direction. It is particularly aimed at students who dropped out of school within the last five-or-six years and who are now having vocational problems for which they have found no guidance or answers. The physical location of the Madison Area Project office is ideal for this type of assistance because the surrounding environment is non-threatening. The service will be tried out on an experimental basis first, with Tuesdays and Thursdays as days when interested individuals can visit the counselor, between 3:00 and 5:30 or 6:00 PM.